

REMARKS

Claims 20-61 are pending. Claims 20, 26, and 38 have been amended to more precisely claim the invention.

The Examiner rejected claims 26-50 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant has amended these claims to address the Examiner's concern.

The Examiner rejected each claim under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,918,238 to Hayashi ("Hayashi"), U.S. Patent No. 6,323,885 to Wiese ("Wiese"), U.S. Patent No. 6,349,315 to Sonoyama ("Sonoyama"), and the Project Gateway 5 Repository User Manual ("PG5") according to the following table:

Claims	Reference
20-30, 34-41, 45-57, and 61	Hayashi and Wiese
31-33, 42-44, and 58-60	Hayashi, Wiese, and Sonoyama
20, 26, 38, and 51	Hayashi and PG5

As noted by the Examiner, Hayashi teaches a system capable of applying color to the cells of a table based on the particular values within the cells. The system of Hayashi does not teach applying different conditions per field. The system of Hayashi does not understand the meaning of the data in the tables that it colorizes, it only understands the values found in the table. For example, if a rule were set up to colorize values greater than 50 with the color red, the system of Hayashi would colorize all cells with values greater than 50, and could not be instructed to colorize only cells in a column pertaining to the amount of time spent on a project. The system of Hayashi also does not teach displaying user-specified graphical indicators instead of data. The system described in Hayashi is limited to modifying the text color, cell background color, or border format of cells in a

table. In Hayashi, the original data is always displayed along with the modified color, and user-selected images are not possible.

Sonoyama is similar to Hayashi, in that Sonoyama teaches a method for coloring cells or the text within cells based on the value of the data in the cell. Sonoyama does not teach displaying user-specified graphical indicators instead of data, and like Hayashi, the original data is always displayed along with the modified color.

Wiese teaches displaying a pre-defined graphical symbol on a map depending on the value of real estate at that location. For example, a red triangle might be used at a location on the map for a home that last sold for \$200,000 to \$250,000. Wiese does not teach allowing the user to select what symbols will be used or what values of data will correspond to each symbol. Wiese also does not teach specifying different conditions for each field, as it is concerned only with a single field, the cost of real estate.

The system of PG5 displays pre-defined symbols for pre-defined conditions. For example, a frown is displayed when overdue work is 15 to 50% of the remaining work. PG5 does not teach allowing users to specify the fields to which symbols will apply, the conditions that will cause the display of each symbol, or the particular symbols used.

In contrast, Applicant's technology allows users to specify conditions for any field in a project report, and to select custom images to be displayed instead of the data in those fields when the conditions are met. None of the cited prior art recites allowing users to specify images. Each of Applicant's independent claims recites this language. Claim 20 recites "receiving...a user-selected graphical indicator." Claims 26 and 38 recite "to display user-selected graphical indicators instead of data in fields." Claim 51 recites "receiving from a user an indication of a condition and a graphical indicator." Thus, all of Applicant's independent claims recite elements not present in any of the cited prior art, either alone or in combination. Moreover, the claims recite a unique combination of elements that is not found in the cited references. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn.

Based upon the above remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this application and its early allowance. If the Examiner has any question or believes that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (206) 359-8548.

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Respectfully submitted,

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